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who had secretly crept in numbers into Silesia.' He enacted that its adherents should be proceeded against vigorously in the courts of the locality where they should be arrested, brought thence to the part from whence they came, admonished to an obedient and Christian behavior, and, if need be, submitted to some punishment by dipping [mit gesenklicher Straff belegt werden solten]. If a man should obstinately cling to this sect, or exile himself on its account, his property was to be alienated to the advantage of his children, or, if there were no children, or if these should also be Anabaptists, the property should pass in usufruct to the next of kin until the sectary renounced his errors. Only those who were generally reputed Anabaptists should be so treated."

R. KERR ECCLES.

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Ohio.

DEUTSCHE GESCHICHTE IM ZEITALTER DER GEGENREFORMATION.
Von GUSTAV WOLF. I. Band. Berlin: Oswald Seehagen's
Verlag, 1898, 1899. Pp. xvi + 789. M. 26.

AS THIS is only the first volume of a series, and as it deals chiefly with the history of Germany at the beginning of the period which is to be studied in the later portions, I cannot judge of the entire work.

The volume is divided into three parts. The author calls the first part "general." It seems to me somewhat too general. The author says that he has thought it well to avoid details, and make a critical portraiture of the earlier period in its broader outlines only. He has carried out his design, but the design itself leaves something to be desired.

The first part of the volume falls into three sections. The first section treats of the constitution of the German empire in the period of the Reformation; the second, of the Catholic church before the council of Trent; and the third, of the evangelical church of Germany at the death of Luther. The first section contains much more of new material than the others. In the second and third the tendency of the author to indulge in rather vague generalizations, without illustrative examples, is strongly marked; but it is far too conspicuous even in the first, where the best work is done. Not a few important questions are left unanswered. How many German states were there? How many free imperial cities? What differences of authority are represented by the various titles of archduke, grand duke, margrave, landgrave, and palatine? What proportion of the

land was under the control of bishops and abbots? What proportion of the ecclesiastical lands belonged strictly to the church, and what proportion strictly to the empire under the feudal system? Had the emperor, or the emperor and diet, a legal right to bestow territories on new bishops under the feudal system, or the right to secularize territories once ruled by bishops? Just how far did the "right of protection" extend which was exercised by certain princes over certain bishoprics? How much of the income of these territories went to the secular lord in return for the protection which he gave? There are scores of such questions which our author does not answer. Yet upon the answers to some of them must depend our judgment concerning the morality or the immorality of the German princes, Catholic and Protestant, in seizing the bishoprics and secularizing them. But, while I regret this lack of detail, I am thankful for the very valuable contribution which the author makes to our knowledge of the constitution of the empire. He is especially helpful in his discussion of the diet, the imperial chamber, and the various conventions which represented the interests of limited classes, as the princes, the lesser nobles, the knights, and the free cities. He answers many of our questions, and he renders us a service in suggesting many others, even if he does not answer them.

The second part of the volume has for its title "Charles V. at the Summit of his Power." In this part, therefore, we expect a narrative of the Smalcald War. But we do not find it. The author assumes that the reader already knows the war as a series of events, and limits himself to a discussion of the motives of the chief actors on one side and the other, to the diplomatic negotiations which preceded and followed it, and to its results. His discussion of the working of the interim in the various German states is of special value.

The third part is entitled "The Revolution," and has to do with the successful treachery of Maurice of Saxony. Yet it contains scarcely a page of narrative, and the reader hardly perceives that the action of Maurice was essentially military.

Moreover, one finds it difficult to agree with the author that the emperor was perfectly well aware of the plans of Maurice in advance, and made such preparations to thwart them as he could. He does not seem to have made any at all. It would be easier to accept the theory of Froude, that he secretly arranged with Maurice beforehand to drive him out of the Tyrol, in order, at the same time, to disperse the council of Trent, with which he was disgusted, but with which he could not

afford to quarrel. Both theories seem to me incredible, and it is better to believe that the emperor was completely surprised. Wolf proves only, what has long been known, that he was warned, but not that he heeded the warning which he received.

From what I have said it is evident that the work of Wolf is not a history in the ordinary sense. It contains little or no narrative. Its personages do not act. Their motives are laid bare, as their conflicting interests are presented, but we do not see their differing characters. Hence the work is destitute of dramatic interest.

The history of the Counter-Reformation as a world-wide movement has not yet been produced, but the materials for it are accumulating rapidly in such forms as this, and it is to be hoped that some competent writer will soon make use of them. When such a historian shall undertake the task, he will derive much assistance at certain points from Wolf, though at others he will not find so much light as he will expect.

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A HISTORY OF THE PARISH OF TRINITY CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK. Compiled by Order of the Corporation, and edited by MORGAN DIX, S.T.D., D.C.L., Ninth Rector. Part I, "To the Close of the Rectorship of Dr. Inglis, A. D. 1783." New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, The Knickerbocker Press, 1898. Pp. xvi + 506. \$5.

IN outward appearance this history is a work of art. The volume now before me is from the letter-press edition, which is limited to 750 copies. The paper and binding are sumptuous. The illustrations are numerous, and consist of portraits of the various rectors, views of the church, and facsimiles of many important documents. The volume will be welcomed by the lovers of luxurious book-making.

The work of the author, on the whole, is as well done as that of the publisher. Dr. Dix seems to have omitted nothing. He gives good reasons for not beginning his narrative with the creation of the world, notwithstanding the example of various other chroniclers whom he mentions. He then begins as near the creation as possible by recording the discovery of North America. His view gradually narrows to the territory of Manhattan Island, and, after seventy-five quarto pages, to the parish of Trinity Church. But no reader will regret this command of unlimited space, for the lengthy sketch forms a good, though not a necessary, vestibule to the principal building, and is well done.